

CONSTRUCTION NEAR THE RIVER

Making improvements for fish, wildlife and people

You may have noticed a lot of construction activity along the Sammamish River this summer. The City of Redmond has been building two projects to improve water quality, fish habitat and recreational use of the river.

habitat enhancement projects completed in 1996 and 2004. The goal of the project is to improve the flow of the river, enhance habitat both in the river and on its banks and improve the overall look of the river for recreation. As construction is completed and new plants mature, the result will be a wooded, natural looking river corridor replacing the straight channel lined with blackberries.

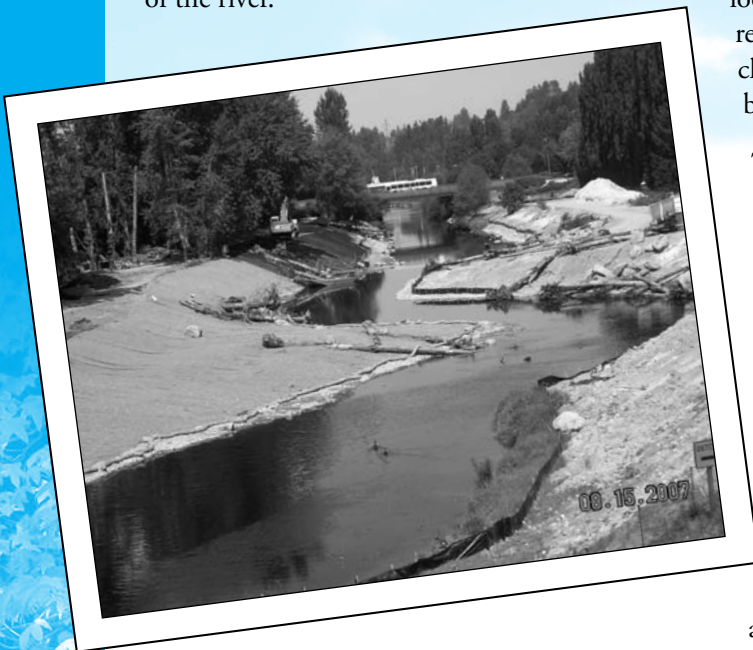
The river was straightened long ago to reduce flooding, but this resulted in a lack of native vegetation and cool water needed by fish and wildlife. The recent work to reshape the river channel has created a dramatic new meander

salmon as they migrate downstream. These improvements have been accomplished while maintaining the river channel's capacity to prevent flooding.

Areas along the river, called buffers, will include native trees to shade the river improving critical habitat for fish and wildlife, as well as improving aesthetics for trail users. King County's regional trail has been relocated and repaved back from the new riverbanks. This project has been made possible in part with generous funding from King County Conservation District and the Washington Department of Community, Trade and Economic Development.

McRedmond Water Quality Facility

Another exciting project is nearing completion at the Luke McRedmond Landing Park where the City has installed several hightech, stormwater quality treatment facilities under the parking lot and has made some minor park improvements. The purpose of this project is to improve the quality of stormwater entering the river. Stormwater



Habitat Enhancement Project (HEP) IV
This project along the river, between NE 85 Street and the railroad trestle, connects two previous river

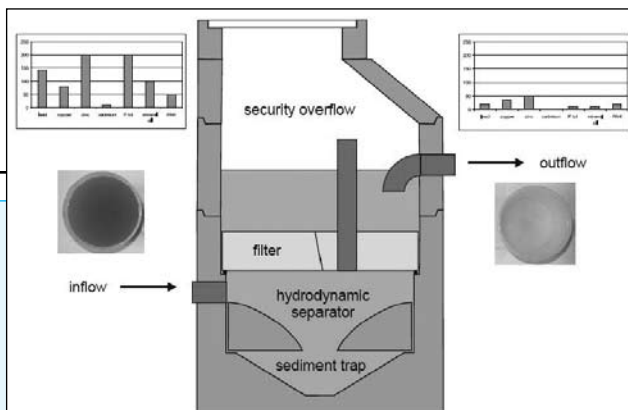
and the banks have been cut back where possible. The improvements, including placing log jams, rocks and streambed gravel, will improve water flow and enhance habitat for juvenile

flowing from city streets often carries sediment, metals, oils, grease and other pollutants mostly generated from automobiles. The new underground stormwater treatment vaults will remove these pollutants to provide clear, clean water for fish and wildlife that use the river.

The City's new vaults are state-of-the-art treatment facilities that are designed to remove these pollutants with minimal maintenance and cost (see inset). Park improvements include widening the Sammamish River Trail within the park (in cooperation with King County), renovating the park lawn to improve drainage and landscaping around the newly paved parking lot and park entrance (in cooperation with a private developer). The completed work will result in a more attractive and usable park providing access to the river for its many visitors.

This stormwater treatment project is the first of six regional stormwater facilities to be constructed in downtown Redmond and has been funded through City of Redmond stormwater utility fees, developer contributions and both City of Redmond and King County Parks Departments. For more information, visit: www.redmond.gov/insidecityhall/publicworks/stormwater/regional-facilities.asp

While the City's work is being wrapped up, a private development project next door will continue for the next couple of years after the park is reopened. Access to the park's parking lot, which crosses private property, could be limited during some portions of that private construction project.



View animation of process at www.watertectonics.com

Stormwater Treatment Facility

The City's new underground stormwater treatment facility uses the Royal Environmental Systems "EcoStorm Plus" media filter, just recently approved by the Washington State Department of Ecology for use to treat stormwater. A condition of Ecology's approval, and an important part of the City's water quality program, is monitoring the effectiveness of the facility at removing pollutants. The City will park a treatment trailer in the McRedmond parking lot for the next several months to monitor the quality of the water entering and leaving the stormwater treatment facility.

How does the filter work?

Surface water enters catch basins in city streets and flows through pipes to the underground vault.

Once the water enters through the vault's "inlet", it is forced into a swirl pattern forming a cyclone of water that acts to separate solid particles from the water (sedimentation). These solid pollutants fall through the center opening and into a sediment storage area below.

Water pressure forces the water up through a porous concrete filter. As the water flows through the filter, smaller particles are captured in the underside of the filter (filtration). Dissolved particles stick to the filter (adsorption), and after a series of chemical reactions they settle into the bottom of the vault. Water passes through the "outlet" to a pipe that leads to the river. The City periodically removes sediment stored in the bottom for proper disposal.

WATER NEWS

Water Conservation Tips For Fall

There are many ways to conserve water this season – indoors and outdoors. Even small steps and a few minutes can add up to big savings.

1. Fix leaky faucets inside or outside right away. Even small drips can quickly add up to thousands of gallons.
2. Check your toilet for leaks annually. Place a dye tab or a few drops of food coloring in the tank of the toilet and wait 15 minutes (don't flush)! If the color seeps into the bowl, the toilet flapper is likely worn and leaking.
3. Run full loads in your clothes washer and dishwashers.
4. Before turning off your irrigation systems for the winter, check them for leaks and repair them before next spring.
5. Take advantage of water conservation rebate programs offered

through Cascade Water Alliance:

- **Clothes Washer Rebates**
Rebates are available up to \$100 to single family residents for the purchase of high-efficiency clothes washers.
- **Toilet Rebates**
Free toilets and \$80 rebates are available to commercial and multi-family accounts for the replacement of tank-style toilets. Rebates up to \$120 are available for the installation of waterless urinals.
- **Irrigation Rebates**
Rebates of up to \$450 are available for upgrading controllers and the installation of rain sensors for residential, multi-family or commercial irrigation systems.

Application forms for all the rebates are available through www.cascadewater.org. Please contact 425-556-2845 if you have any questions.

Water Use Efficiency Rule

Washington State has developed regulations requiring each water agency to adopt Water Conservation Savings Goals, on which the public must have an opportunity to comment.

Because Redmond is a member of the Cascade Water Alliance, most of its water conservation programs are implemented through that organization. Cascade has already adopted Water Conservation Savings Goals to comply with the state regulations, and has established what will apply to Redmond.

The City Council will be reviewing Cascade's Goals and adopting goals specific to Redmond in October. The public will be invited to comment on those proposed goals. A notice announcing this meeting will be distributed in the water bills. For more information, call 425-556-2845 or visit www.redmond.gov.

RECYCLE

Recycling Mysteries Solved!

Recycling mystery:

I shred confidential documents at home. Do I put the shredded paper in the recycling cart?

Mystery solved:

Shredded paper does not go in your recycling cart! Shredded paper is difficult to sort from other recyclables. It can contaminate other recycled materials, such as glass and aluminum, making them less marketable.

But don't worry – you don't have to throw your shredded paper in the garbage. You can put it into your yard waste cart. It will be taken to Cedar Grove and turned into compost. Please put shredded paper into a paper bag before placing in your yard waste cart.

Water is a shared resource. Please use it wisely.

Water. Children sip it, trees drink it, even fish in our streams need it. We all share it. Let's use it wisely.

Water is a precious, finite resource. Demands on it are ever increasing. Conserving water year round helps ensure there's enough for all the needs in the Puget Sound region – for our communities, businesses and environment.



Other options for shredded paper include:

- Packing material
- Animal bedding
- Compost (mix 2 parts paper with 1 part grass in a compost pile)

If none of the above options work for you, bag shredded paper and put it in the garbage.

Recycling mystery:

What do I do with batteries?

Mystery solved:

Batteries can be recycled at City of Redmond Recycling & Collection Events held three times a year. The next event is scheduled for October 6. The types of batteries accepted include; lead acid batteries such as car, truck, marine and motorcycle; household batteries such as alkaline AAA, AA, B, C, D Cells (6 volts or less only); and nickel cadmium, mercury, lithium, silver and small lead-acid (computer and telephone). For more information about recycling batteries visit www.metrokc.gov/dnrp/swd/wdidw.

Redmond Businesses Shine

Three Redmond businesses are included in the 21 businesses King County's Solid Waste Division recently named to its first-annual "Best Workplaces for Recycling" list. These King County businesses are being recognized for strong internal recycling programs and their commitment to making recycling easy for employees. Businesses in Redmond to receive this honor are Emerald Heights, The Home Depot and PCC Natural Market.

To qualify as a Best Workplace for Recycling, companies completed an online application providing information on how they promote

recycling in the workplace. The business must be located in King County and fulfill at least 10 out of 27 recycling criteria, such as offering recycling bins at every employee's workstation, purchasing recycled content products and offering employees tips on how to recycle more.

The City of Redmond congratulates these businesses for their accomplishments in recycling!

Businesses Can Recycle Food Waste At No Additional Cost

Businesses that generate food and organic waste, such as restaurants and florists, are eligible for up to two 64-gallon food waste collection carts that will be picked up twice a week free-of charge. Some Redmond businesses are already lowering the size of their garbage containers, and their garbage bills, by recycling food waste. Last year 28 Redmond businesses recycled 325 tons of food waste!



Keep Carts off Sidewalks

Please be sure to set your garbage, recycling and yard waste carts out properly to ensure safe and efficient collection. Carts should be placed on the edge of the street with cart wheels snug to the curb. Please remember:

- Place carts two feet apart and at least three feet from cars, trees, mailboxes and fences
- Place cart wheels as close to the curb as possible
- Set carts so lids open toward street
- Do not place carts on sidewalks or crosswalks

When possible, trucks with robotic arms will lift, empty and replace the carts without the drivers leaving the trucks, reducing safety hazards and traffic congestion. Thank you for your help in keeping our streets and sidewalks safe on collection days!

To learn more regarding any of the above recycling stories, call 425-556-2832 or sbreskin-auer@redmond.gov.

Help "ReLeaf" the Sammamish River this October

Get out and plant a tree! The Cities of Redmond and Woodinville and REI are teaming up to sponsor this year's 2007 Sammamish Releaf. Join community groups, families and volunteers of all ages in making the Sammamish River a better place for people, fish and wildlife.

September 29

Woodinville, 10am to 2pm

Contact Patrick Tefft at 425-489-2700 or PatrickT@ci.woodinville.wa.us

October 13

Redmond, 10am to 2pm

Contact Peter Holte at 425-556-2822 or pholte@redmond.gov

Wear old clothes and work shoes. Bring work gloves and a shovel (though a limited number of shovels and gloves are available to borrow). Dress for the weather – we work rain or shine!

An adult must accompany participants under the age of 16. Participants under 18 must bring a signed liability agreement. For Redmond's waiver go to: www.redmond.gov/insidecityhall/publicworks/environment/pdfs/WaiverForm.pdf

Large groups are encouraged to come, but please call us in advance so we can serve you better.

Be Part of Salmon Spotting SEEson

Can you spot the spawners? Forget the Discovery Channel, we've got wild adult

Help Look for Salmon

The City of Redmond is seeking volunteers to help us track salmon populations. Volunteers will observe local streams, searching for salmon, for 15 minutes twice a week while salmon are running (usually October to January).

Volunteers count the number and type of salmon spotted in a specific location. This information is pooled with data gathered from other volunteers throughout the county.

Training is provided. To learn more about the program, visit the Salmon Watchers website: <http://dnr.metrokc.gov/wlr/waterres/salmon/> or contact Peter Holte at 425-556-2822 or pholte@redmond.gov.

Training sessions run from 7 to 9pm on the following dates at two locations:

- Monday, September 10
at Woodinville City Hall
- Thursday, September 13
at Bellevue City Hall

salmon migrating up the Sammamish River to their spawning grounds in Bear Creek.

The City of Redmond is sponsoring Salmon Spotting Stations along the Sammamish River Trail near the 90th Street Bridge on the following days:

- September 23, from 1 to 3pm
- September 29, from 2 to 4pm
- October 6, from 1 to 3pm
- October 27, from 1 to 3pm

Interpretive naturalists from the local non-profit Nature Vision will help you search for Chinook, Sockeye and Coho salmon. Nature Vision will answer your fishy questions, let you know what you can do to help these amazing wild species survive here in our watershed and even lend you a pair of polarized glasses that help you see into the water.

For information, Peter Holte at 425-556-2822 or pholte@redmond.gov.

More opportunities to see fish

- **Watertenders** – *Meet the Salmon*
events along Bear Creek and the
Sammamish River
For information: 425-788-
5083 or www.watertenders.org
 - September 29 from 1-4pm
 - October 4 from 3-6pm
 - October 6 from 1-4pm
- **Classic Nursery** – View the
sockeye (and maybe Chinook) on
Bear Creek
For information: 425-882-1846
or lyhussey@comcast.net
 - Late September to mid
November
 - Mon – Sun, during busines
hours

For more information about these and other opportunities to spot salmon, visit: www.dnr.metrokc.gov/wriar/8 and click Salmon SEEs on

Salmon viewing location map:

www.redmond.gov/insidacityhall/publicworks/environment/pdfs/salmonviewingsites.pdf